



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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September 25, 2008

Mr. Mark Durno, Chief
Emergency Response Section 1
U.S. EPA
25089 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, OH 44145

RE: FORMER GENERAL INDUSTRIES SITE, ELYRIA, OHIO

Dear Mr. Durno:

Ohio EPA requests U.S. EPA's assistance in conducting a potential time critical removal action at the former General Industries site located at 154 Olive St., Elyria, Ohio in Lorain County. On July 3, 2008, a fire destroyed a majority of this complex encompassing three city blocks. At the time of the fire, the majority of the buildings were unoccupied and one of the small businesses that existed was operated by the owner of the entire site. A subsequent survey of the remaining structures and the debris indicates there is asbestos throughout. The site owner has no insurance coverage for the structures and no removal operations have commenced since the fire.

The site is located in the middle of the city and has been cordoned off to prevent trespassers. However, the Elyria Fire Department has ceased spraying any water on the site to suppress the asbestos dust at the site. City officials have contacted Ohio EPA for assistance to find a solution to address this situation and we would like U.S. EPA's input.

Jim Veres of Ohio EPA's Northeast District Office is the contact for this site and he can be reached at (330) 963-1288. Please let me know what you think and feel free to call me at (614) 644-3615 with any questions. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Paul Koval, Supervisor
Division of Air Pollution Control/Air Toxic Unit

cc: Kathryn C. Boylan, Health Commissioner
Terry Shilling, Elyria Law Director
Chris Eichenlaub, Safety Service Director
Phillip Lahetta, Chief Bldg. Inspector
Robert Dempsey, Asst. Chief/Fire Marshall

Dennis Bush, NEDO/DAPC
Bob Prinic, NEDO/DAPC
Jim Veres, NEDO/DAPC
Tom Buchan, CO/DAPC

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director